

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

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1. The Ignatyev-Ryumin affair and the apparently related Georgian purge do not necessarily reflect a conflict between top Soviet leaders. Until more evidence accumulates, it is [] temporary analysis that the doctors' plot was an invention of Stalin's own (or at least it was given his blessing), designed for a purpose as yet unknown. [] the release of the doctors and the disciplinary action taken against Ignatyev, Ryumin, and others were the result of a decision taken as a committee by the new leaders and should be considered as an aspect of their attempt to secure an atmosphere of relaxation both internally and externally. 25X1
2. As of 5 May 1953 there was no evidence that non-orbit Communist Parties had had any special directives or propaganda lines confided to them. The present peace exchanges are being conducted between governments; the initiative, and therefore the propaganda dividend, is at present passing far above the heads of the Communist Parties. [] it will be only as the various "sticking points" in these exchanges are reached that the USSR will entrust the Parties with propaganda lines in support of the Soviet case. It is, of course, clear that spectacular peace moves by the USSR would provide Communist Parties with the propaganda material for which they have been waiting in vain for several years, especially if the Western nations were to be maneuvered into the position of having to reject apparently genuine Soviet advances. At present, however, the battle for public opinion throughout the world is only in its opening phases. [] the question of greatest interest is whether or not the new government in the USSR will devise new methods of controlling and directing the Communist movement. So far, no evidence of innovations has been seen. 25X1

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25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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